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# ANNUAL REPORT

on the Sanitary Condition  
of the

Thorne Rural District  
1946



By

**J. M. TAYLOR, M.D., D.P.H.**  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

THORNE

W. Wrigley and Son, Printers, Market Place



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To the Chairman and Members of the  
Thorne Rural District Council.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

As advised by the Ministry of Health in its circular 28/46, dated February 11th 1946, the annual report on the health of the district is again presented in condensed form. The statistical tables are in the forms required by the Ministry.

The population given by the Registrar-General for calculating the birth and death rates is 29,520, an increase of 210 from the number for 1945.

The Birth Rate for 1946 is 24.97 per 1,000 population, an increase of 2 from the rate for 1945. The Birth Rate for England and Wales for 1946 is 19.1. There were 63 more births than in 1945.

The Death Rate for 1946 is 9.1 per 1,000 population. In 1945 it was 7.98. The rate for England and Wales for 1946 is 11.5.

The Infant Mortality Rate is lower at 47 deaths per 1,000 live births. The rate for England and Wales is 43.

There were few notifications of Diphtheria and Scarletina, the case-rates for these diseases being well below the rates for England.

Yours obediently,

J. M. TAYLOR,

Medical Officer of Health

July 22nd 1947

# Annual Report on the Sanitary Condition of the Thorne Rural District for 1946

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## *General Statistics relating to the Rural District*

The Rural District comprises five civil parishes, and has an area of 38,419 acres.

The Registrar-General's estimate of the resident population for the year 1946 is 29,520.

The total number of inhabited houses in the district at the end of 1946, according to the rate books, was 7,057.

The Rateable Value of the district is £118,011.

The sum represented by a penny rate is £445/9/6.7

## *Vital Statistics*

### **Births**

The estimate of population supplied by the Registrar-General for calculating the birth rate is 29,520.

The total number of births during 1946 was 737.

Of these 366 were males and 371 were females.

Legitimate births numbered 683.

Of these legitimate births 341 were males and 342 females.

Illegitimate births numbered 54, 25 being males and 29 females.

The birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated population is 25.00.

The birth rate per 1,000 of the population for England and Wales is 19.1.

The total number of stillbirths was 14.

Of these 10 were males and 4 females; 13 were legitimate.

The stillbirth rate for the district per 1,000 total (live and still) births is 18.66.

The stillbirth rate for the district per 1,000 population is 0.47.

### **Deaths**

The total number of Deaths during 1946 was 268.

Of these 132 were males and 136 females.

The actual or crude death rate for the district is 9.1 per 1,000 population.

The death rate for England and Wales is 11.5.

## *Deaths of Infants under 1 Year*

The total number was 31.

Of these 15 were males and 16 females.

The death rate of infants under one year per 1,000 live births is 47.

The death rate for England and Wales is 43.

The following table gives the Infantile Death Rate for the last five years :—

1941	.....	79.2 per 1,000 live births
1942	.....	68.3      "      "
1943	.....	61.8      "      "
1944	.....	52.84      "      "
1945	.....	56.37      "      "

Deaths from Cancer (all ages) 41

Deaths from Measles (all ages) 2

Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages) 1

Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years) 8

## **DEATHS FROM PUERPERAL CAUSES:**

From Sepsis, one.

Other causes, one.

*Causes of Death in the Thorne Rural District, as supplied by the Registrar-General for 1946*

<b>Causes of Death</b>		<b>M</b>	<b>F</b>
All causes	....	132	136
Typhoid and Para-Typhoid Fevers	....	0	0
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	....	7	7
Other forms of Tuberculosis	....	2	3
Syphilitic Diseases	....	1	0
Influenza	....	3	2
Measles	....	1	1
Cancer of Buccal Cavity, Oesophagus and Uterus	....	2	2
Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum	....	6	2
Cancer of Breast	....	0	4
Cancer of all other sites	....	16	9
Diabetes	....	0	4
Intra-cranial vascular lesions	....	8	11
Heart Disease	....	16	33
Other Diseases of circulatory system	....	2	5
Bronchitis	....	14	4
Pneumonia	....	11	8
Other respiratory diseases	....	2	1
Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	....	1	1
Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	....	5	3
Appendicitis	....	0	0
Other Digestive Diseases	....	3	2
Nephritis	....	4	9
Puerperal and Post-abortion Sepsis	....	0	1
Other maternal causes	....	0	1
Premature Birth	....	1	5
Congenital Malformations, Birth Injuries, Infantile Diseases	....	7	3
Suicide	....	2	0
Other violent causes	....	4	3
All other causes	....	13	11

### Notifiable Diseases during the Year (other than Tuberculosis)

Disease		Total Cases notified		Cases admitted to Hospital
Scarlet Fever	....	31	....	3
Diphtheria	....	5	....	5
Pneumonia	....	9	....	1
Erysipelas	....	4	....	0
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	....	4	....	0
Enteric Fever	....	0	....	0
Cerebro-spinal Fever	....	3	....	3
Dysentery	....	0	....	0
Malaria	....	....	2 (R.A.F. Personnel)	

The following table gives a summary of the Infectious Diseases (other than Tuberculosis and Ophthalmia Neonatorum) notified during the year, and arranged in age periods:

	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Pneumonia	Erysipelas	Dysentery	Enteric Fever
Age Periods						
0	—	—	2	—	—	—
1	1	—	—	—	—	—
2	—	—	—	—	—	—
3	1	1	—	—	—	—
4	4	—	—	—	—	—
5	13	2	1	—	—	—
10	4	1	—	—	—	—
15	1	1	1	—	—	—
25	1	—	2	1	—	—
35	1	—	—	—	—	—
45	—	—	1	2	—	—
65 } And upwards	—	—	1	1	—	—
Unknown	5	—	—	—	—	—
	31	5	8	4	0	0

### Diphtheria

The Diphtheria case rate for the district works out at 0.17 per 1,000 population, whereas the rate for England and Wales is 0.28.

The Scarlet Fever case rate for the district is 1.05 per 1,000 population. The rate for England and Wales is 1.38.

### Measles and Whooping Cough

Under provisional regulations which came into force on October 23rd, 1939, Measles and Whooping Cough became notifiable diseases. There were 147 notifications of measles, and 67 of Whooping Cough.

## Public Health (Smallpox Prevention) Regulations 1917

No vaccinations under these regulations were performed by the Medical Officer of Health during the year.

### Tuberculosis

The following table gives a summary of the cases notified during the year, arranged in age periods. The deaths are given in so far as details have been received.

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1	0	0	3	0	1	1	0	0
5	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0
15	9	6	0	0	3	3	0	0
25	3	2	0	1	1	2	0	0
35	4	1	0	0	3	0	0	0
45	2	1	1	0	2	3	0	0
55	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
And upwards	65	2	0	0	0	1	0	0
Unknown	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
	22	12	5	2	10	10	0	0

### Ophthalmia Neonatorum

Four cases were notified, and recovery was complete in all.

### School Closures

There were no school closures during the year.

### Water Supply

Several bacteriological examinations of the water supplied by the Thorne and District Water Company were made during the year.

The report dated Nov. 19th, 1946, by the County Analyst was "Presumptive Bacillus Coli: None in 100 ml. of water. The examination shows that this water is satisfactory according to the standard recommended by the Ministry of Health."

The other reports were in similar terms.

The water is derived from a bore-hole into the New Red Sandstone of the Triassic system. It has been adequate in quantity, and satisfactory in quality throughout the year.

Approximately 6,600 houses have direct water supply from the Company. There are about 20 stand-pipes in the district.

### **Sewerage**

There was one small extension in High Tod Road of 150 yards.

### **Camping Sites**

One licence is in operation under Section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

### **Smoke Abatement**

Three observations of thirty minutes were made but no unsatisfactory conditions were found.

### **Eradication of Bed Bugs**

Eight houses were found to be infested with Bed Bugs. All were treated effectively with insecticides.

## **Chief Sanitary Inspector's Report**

Mr. Wm. Bell reports as follows:

### **Dairies and Cowsheds, etc.**

162 Wholesale Traders on the Register.

55 Retail Traders on the Register.

All Cowsheds are inspected twice a year under Articles 1 and 25 Milk and Dairies Order 1926.

### **Shops Act 1934**

23 Shops inspected.

### **Common Lodging Houses**

3 on Register.

All kept in satisfactory condition.

### **Canal Boats**

188 on Register.

19 Inspected.

180 Boats in use.

### **Factories Act 1937**

71 Factories in district. All inspected.

### **Public Cleansing**

This work is carried out by contractors.

In Hatfield, Hatfield Woodhouse, Stainforth and Thorne, this work has been carried out satisfactorily.

In Moorends Ward the contractor carried out this work in such an unsatisfactory manner that the Council terminated his contract and the work has since been carried out by direct labour with hired motor vehicles.

The cleansing of the parishes of Fishlake and Sykehouse was undertaken by contract for the first time, no cleansing service having been provided in these parishes previously.

The Council decided to carry out the whole of the Public Cleansing Service by direct labour and have ordered the necessary vehicles and it is hoped to inaugurate the service from the 1st April, 1947.

### *Closet Accommodation in the District*

No. of Box Closets, 452.

No. of Privies with Covered Middens, 973.

No. of Water Closets, 5,281.

There were 6 conversions during the year.

### *Bakehouses*

9 Bakehouses on the Register.

All inspected during the year.

### *Slaughter Houses*

There are no licensed slaughter houses at present.

### *Nuisances*

Total number of Inspections during 1946, 132

Total number of Nuisances during 1946, 57.

Total number of Nuisances abated during 1946, 53.

### *Meat Inspection*

The slaughtering of animals was prohibited as from 15th January 1940, and only emergency slaughtered animals have been inspected after that date.

### *Swimming Baths and Pools*

There is one privately owned open-air swimming pool in Hatfield parish

## **HOUSING**

### *Number of New Houses erected during 1946*

1	State Aided	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	none
	(a) by the Local Authority	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	none
	(b) by Private Enterprise	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	none
	Public Utility Societies, etc.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
2	Without State Aid	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	27

## 1. Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year :

1	(a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects under Public Health or Housing Acts .....	93
	(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose .....	nil
2	(a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 .....	nil
	(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose .....	nil
3	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	
	Houses .....	nil
	Caravans .....	nil
4	Number of dwelling-houses exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation .....	nil

## 2. Remedy of defects during the Year without Service of formal Notices :

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers .....	73
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## 3. Action under Statutory Powers during the Year :

(a)—Proceedings under sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936:

1	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs .....	7
2	Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:—	
	(a) By owners .....	5
	(b) By Local Authority in default of owners .....	nil

(b)—Proceedings under Public Health Acts:

1	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied .....	14
2	Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:—	
	(a) By owners .....	5
	(b) By Local Authority in default of owners .....	nil

(c)—Proceedings under sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act 1936:

1	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made .....	nil
2	Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders .....	nil

(d)—Proceedings under section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:

1	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made .....	nil
2	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit .....	nil

**4. Housing Act, 1936—Part IV—Overcrowding:**

(a)—1	Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year .....	27
2	Number of families dwelling therein .....	41
3	Number of persons dwelling therein .....	102
(b)—	Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year .....	11
(c)—1	Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year .....	3
2	Number of persons concerned in such cases .....	14
(d)—	Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding .....	nil



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